

REPORT

NATIVE PAPERS IN BENGAL

FOR THE

Week ending the 8th September 1900.

CONTENTS.

	Page.		Page.
I.—FOREIGN POLITICS.		(e)—Local Self-Government and Municipal Administration—	
The policy of the Powers in China ...	681	Comilla town ...	691
The Shah's reception at Kafkaz in Russia ...	ib.	A foul tank in Midnapore town ...	ib.
The Sultan of Muscat ...	ib.	The Cossipore-Chitpur Municipality ...	ib.
Persian backwardness ...	ib.	The Panihati Municipality in the 24-Parganas district ...	ib.
Turkey in the Indian famine ...	682	Election in a Village Union in the 24-Parganas district ...	ib.
The proposed railway for Musalman pilgrims ...	ib.	Mekher service in the Chinsura Municipality ...	692
The Laccadive Isles ...	ib.		
II.—HOME ADMINISTRATION.		(f)—Questions affecting the land—	
(a)—Police—		Nil.	
A case of alleged police oppression ...	ib.	(g)—Railways and communications, including canals and irrigation—	
The Khulna police in a case of abduction ...	683	A bad road in the Tippera district ...	ib.
Badmashi in the Khulna district ...	ib.	A bad road in Midnapore town ...	ib.
Theft in the Kushtia subdivision ...	ib.	Dismissal of clerks on the Eastern Bengal State Railway ...	ib.
Demolition of a Hindu temple by a Musalman ...	ib.	Roads in the Hooghly district ...	ib.
Popular feeling regarding the police ...	ib.	A bad road in the Nadia district ...	ib.
(b)—Working of the Courts—		The accident on the Orissa line ...	ib.
Road-cess revaluation in Barisal ...	684	(h)—General—	
The Cawnpore sentence ...	ib.	The Special Sub-Registrar of Barisal ...	693
The Sullivan case ...	685	Sir John Woodburn's visit to Dumraon ...	ib.
The Sullivan case ...	ib.	Mr. K. G. Gupta's proposed appointment to a Commissionership ...	ib.
Mr. Jarbo, Deputy Magistrate of Midnapore ...	686	The Deputy Post-master General of Rajputana ...	ib.
The sentence on the Cawnpore rioters ...	ib.	Appointment of natives to high posts ...	694
A complaint against the Chittagong criminal courts ...	687	Prosecution of a Benares paper for sedition ...	ib.
The Subdivisional Officer of Cox's Bazar ...	ib.		
Mr. Jarbo, Deputy Magistrate of Midnapore ...	ib.	III.—LEGISLATIVE.	
An order issued by the Magistrate of Khulna ...	ib.	Nil.	
An inconvenience caused by the combination of judicial and revenue functions ...	ib.	IV.—NATIVE STATES.	
The Cawnpore sentence ...	688	Travel by Native Chiefs ...	ib.
The Khulna records ...	ib.	Travel by Native Chiefs ...	ib.
The Sullivan case ...	ib.	The Bharatpur deposition ...	695
The Cawnpore plague riot case ...	689	Travel by Native Princes ...	ib.
The Cawnpore sentence ...	ib.	The deposition of the Maharaja of Bharatpur ...	696
The Bogra case ...	690	Travel by Native Chiefs ...	ib.
(c)—Jails—		The Bharatpur deposition ...	ib.
Nil.		The Bharatpur deposition ...	ib.
(d)—Education—		Travel by Native Chiefs ...	697
An examiner in the Upper Primary Examination in the Chittagong district ...	ib.	The Bharatpur deposition ...	ib.
Female education among Musalmans ...	ib.	The Bharatpur deposition ...	ib.
The Principalship of the Sanskrit College ...	ib.	Travel by Native Princes ...	698
The Eden Hindu Hostel ...	ib.	Travel by Native Chiefs ...	699
The financial condition of the Calcutta University ...	ib.	The Bharatpur deposition ...	ib.
The Principalship of the Sanskrit College ...	691		

	Page.
The Bharatpur deposition ...	699
The Bharatpur deposition ...	ib.
Travel by Native Chiefs ...	ib.
The Bharatpur deposition ...	700
Travel by Native Chiefs ...	ib.
Travel by Native Chiefs ...	ib.
Travel by Native Chiefs ...	701

V.—PROSPECTS OF THE CROPS AND CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

Nil.

VI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

The Lady Doctorship of the Dufferin Zangana Hospi- tal in Calcutta ...	ib.
The Hon'ble Mr. Oldham ...	ib.
The vacancy in the Calcutta Lady Dufferin Hospi- tal ...	ib.

Page.

URIYA PAPERS.

The cultivation of the practical arts by Indians ...	703
Floods in the Balasore district ...	ib.
The accident on the Orissa Railway line ...	ib.
The railway accident ...	ib.
The railway accident ...	ib.
Flood on the Orissa line ...	703
Relief figures in the Khond Mahals ...	ib.
Mr. Brown's "Guide to Orissa" ...	ib.
Ferry ghât oppression ...	ib.
The Government Resolution on the Orissa Settle- ment ...	ib.

ASSAM PAPERS.

Mr. Porteous leaving Sylhet ...	ib.
---------------------------------	-----

I.—FOREIGN POLITICS.

THE *Roznama-i-Mukaddas Hablul Mateen* [Calcutta] of the 27th August has the following:—

The policy of the Powers in China.

Pekin has been taken by the united forces of the Powers. The Celestial Government has yet no intention to take any hostile measure against the united European Powers. The European Powers have entered China. But, instead of being ashamed of what they said at first, they now say that the Chinese were very much ready to get the Europeans into trouble, but were unable to resist the disciplined European troops. Those who do not know the tricks played by European statesmen on China, will take the statements published in the European papers as quite correct. But a man with a grain of common sense will ask himself—"Now, is it possible that China, who was unable, three years ago, to defend herself against Japan, should become so bold as to make war against Europe?" One day, circumstances may require the Europeans to play a similar trick upon Turkey, which was once a first-class Power, and is now a sick man at the point of death. In that case the attention of the Moslem world, which acknowledges its temporal ruler as also its spiritual head, will be directed to that trick, and the Musalmans in despair of their lives—despair which makes a man forget all considerations of decency, manliness and independence, and induces a feeling of helpless stupor—will be led to surrender their independence.

The Chinese Empire, which was considered by European statesmen to be in a dying condition before its defeat by Japan, is now being declared by them to be strong enough to wage war against the European Powers. The best part of the joke is that the European statesmen and the European paper were well aware of the military weakness of China, and that they themselves played the trick. At the outset they affected such fear and so cleverly made themselves out to be the oppressed and the Chinese to be the oppressors, that the world sympathised with them. Our newspapers, however piteous their tone, cannot approach the European papers in this respect. They manage the thing so skilfully that the world becomes affected with pity. Every statesman said from the very first what policy the Europeans would follow in the Far East. The Eastern statesmen were wrong in supposing that there would be a friction among the Powers with respect to the division of the conquered country. Such a friction is impossible so long as there is a fear of a rising of the natives against them. When a settlement will be effected between the Powers and the natives with respect to European commerce in that country, and when China will be completely weakened in that stage of affairs, then there will surely be a quarrel among the Powers in China.

2. The same paper is glad that the Musalmans (Sunnis) of Kafkaz, in Russia, have given a good reception to the Shah of Persia, who visited the place on his way to Europe. The Shah was very much satisfied with the address of welcome presented by them. It laid great stress upon the fact that it was the intention of the Musalman subjects of the Emperor of all the Russias that a friendly relation should always exist between the Shah and the Czar.

3. The same paper says that it is a matter of satisfaction that the present Sultan of Muscat is, in many cases, giving evidence of sagacity and farsightedness. The foreign merchants and professional men speak in very high terms of the good treatment received by them at the hands of Sayyad Fasil, the present Sultan of Muscat. One proof of his ability, among others, is that many nomadic tribes living in the neighbouring places have acknowledged his suzerainty. It is for the above reason that the British Government is favourably disposed towards him.

4. A correspondent of the same paper has the following:—

Persian backwardness. Our position lies between two great rivals who are trying their best to establish supremacy over Afghanistan and Persia, and who are sending men of different qualifications to make scientific investigation in that connection. In fact, there is hardly a town

ROZNAMA-I-MUKADDAS
DAS HABLUL
MATEEN,
Aug. 27th, 1900.

ROZNAMA-I-MUKADDAS
DAS HABLUL
MATEEN.

ROZNAMA-I-MUKADDAS
DAS HABLUL
MATEEN.

ROZNAMA-I-MUKADDAS
DAS HABLUL
MATEEN.

which is not infested by European engineers, draftsmen, surveyors, and so on. But alas! we, ignorant as we are, are not hesitating to rob the poor of their subsistence. Almost every day Russian papers are pointing out defects in our society and Government. We are so ignorant that we disbelieve any one who tells us that we and our religion are regarded with contempt by other nations. In fact, superstition and selfishness reign supreme all over Persia.

ROZNAMA-I-MUKAD-
DAS HABLUL
MATEEN,
Aug. 27th, 1900.

5. The same paper is glad to hear that Turkey has collected a large amount from among her people to contribute to the Indian Famine Relief Fund.

ROZNAMA-I-MUKAD-
DAS HABLUL
MATEEN.

6. The same paper draws the attention of all Musalmans to the necessity felt by the Turkish Government for collecting donations for constructing the proposed Damascus and Hedjaz Railway. It is thought that this railway ought to be constructed for the benefit of Musalman pilgrims and at the expense of the public. The Musalman Sunnis or Shias ought to help the Turkish Government with money.

7. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 31st August has the following:—

HITAVADI,
Aug. 31st, 1900.

The Laccadive Isles. Some difficulty has arisen in regard to the restoration of the Laccadive Isles to the rightful owner, the Native Chief of Cannanore. In 1895, Sir Henry Fowler, in reply to the Chief's application, promised to restore the Laccadive Isles to him. But his order was not carried out by the Government of India, and now, five years after, Lord George Hamilton gives a shuffling answer—an answer which shows that the Government has no intention of restoring the isles to their rightful owner. The Government says that in settling the question of restoration, it will take into its consideration the welfare of the people of the isles as well as the claim of the original owner. We do not doubt that the Government is going to swallow this new territory solely with the object of promoting the welfare of its inhabitants, but will not the people lose confidence in English veracity if these islands are annexed? Five years ago, a Secretary of State ordered the restoration of the islands, but that order still remains unexecuted, ignored and dishonoured. Does this not reflect a serious discredit on the Government? Is such disobedience pardonable? The present Secretary of State says that, if left in the hands of the Native Chief, the administration of the islands will not be satisfactorily conducted. Has the Secretary of State arrived at this conclusion only lately? The Government of India had long ago recommended the annexation of the islands, but Sir Henry Fowler did not accept that recommendation, and ordered their restoration. The Collector of Malabar was then advised to ask the Chief of Cannanore what system of government he would introduce into the islands if they were restored to him. The Chief replied that he would not interfere with the British system of administration in vogue in the islands. After this, the Collector of Malabar submitted a statement to the Chief, showing that the dues of the British Government had not yet been realised from the revenue of the islands. The Chief, however, pointed out serious mistakes in this statement, and showed that, not only had the dues of the Government been realised, but that something was due to him from that Government.

The Secretary of State pretends ignorance of these facts. In the opinion of the Indian people, there is no changing the orders of the British Government although the officials passing the orders change. Lord George Hamilton's conduct will seriously shake this popular belief.

To tell the truth, such arbitrary conduct as this is not worthy of the British Government. Government is going to adopt unlawful means to annex the Laccadive Isles, to which it has no lawful claim.

II.—HOME ADMINISTRATION.

(a)—Police.

SRI SRI VISHNU
PRIYA-O-
ANANDA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
Aug. 29th, 1900.

8. The *Sri Sri Vishnu Priya-o-Ananda Bazar Patrika* [Calcutta] of the 29th August has learnt from some correspondents that, on the 11th August, a European Magistrate, accompanied by the manager of an indigo factory, arrived at a certain small station on the Tirhoot State Railway, and going direct into the post office ordered the post-master to break open the mail bags and give

them their letters. The post master complied with this order, so far as the manager was concerned; and a peon told the Magistrate that the post-master had no authority to break open the other bag, in which the Magistrate's letters might be, as the bag was intended for some other post office. On this, the Magistrate went away with his companion, abusing the peon. A little later a police head-constable came into the post office and used some threatening words to the post-master.

On the day following the above occurrence, the head-constable came to the post office with a constable and so severely beat a postal peon as to draw blood. The post-master immediately sent a report of the occurrence to the Magistrate and the postal authorities. The aggrieved peon, too, sent a telegram to the Director-General of the Post Office, and another to the Viceroy. The same evening the peon went to the Sadar to lodge a complaint with the Magistrate, and that officer, directed the District Superintendent of Police to make an enquiry. The District Superintendent made this investigation on the 14th August, and told the post-master to send the peon to the Sadar for medical examination. The Postal Department has as yet made no enquiry into the case.

The editor publishes the story without mentioning any names, because he can hardly bring himself to believe it. The authorities should try to ascertain if there is any truth in it.

9. The *Khulna* [Khulna] of the 30th August says that it does not speak well of the Khulna police that they have not yet

KHULNA,
Aug. 30th, 1900.

The Khulna police in a case of abduction.

been able to find Sadhani, wife of Buddhimanta Jura, for whose abduction a complaint was lodged against certain Musalman *badmashes* so far back as the 20th July last. Warrants were issued for the arrest of Meher Shaikh, one of the accused, and the abducted woman. The police failed to trace either of them, and made a return to that effect. Subsequently, Meher Shaikh has given himself up. And though the Magistrate issued a search warrant for the production of the woman, the police have failed to find her. At last, at the request of the prosecution, a Sub-Inspector has been deputed to make a search for the woman, and it is hoped he will be successful. Though Meher Shaikh has given himself up, it is most likely that he is getting those implicated with him to conceal the woman. Warrants ought to have been issued for the arrest of these men also.

10. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 31st August publishes a letter from a correspondent, complaining of the prevalence of *badmashi* in Kalipara, a village in the Khulna district.

HITAVADI,
Aug. 31st, 1900.

Badmashi in the Khulna district.

Some of the *badmashes* were bound down to keep the peace for six months. But they are again causing disturbance before the expiration of that period. They are again frequenting their old haunts and *addas*. They are also publicly selling liquor, *ganja*, &c., without a license. They are also found publicly carrying home liquor purchased in the market. The attention of the authorities ought to be drawn to this matter.

11. The *Hitakari* [Kushtia] of the 31st August complains of the prevalence of theft in the Kushtia subdivision of the Nadia district, and of the inability of the local police to check it. Refaitpur and some

HITAKARI,
Aug. 31st, 1900.

Theft in the Kushtia subdivision.

neighbouring villages have been, of late, so infested by thieves, that many residents of those villages have determined to fly from their homes. In most of the theft cases, the police fail to trace the offenders.

12. The *Hindi Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 3rd September is sorry to hear that a Musalman, of village Sahival, in the Punjab, has demolished a Hindu temple. The owner of the temple being very poor, is unable to take any

HINDI
BANGAVASI,
Sept. 3rd, 1900.

Demolition of a Hindu temple by a Musalman.

legal step against the Musalman. He lodged a petition with the local Commissioner. But we do not know what that officer has done in the case. It is said that trade is at a standstill in the place in consequence of this sacrilege. The local authorities ought to direct their attention to the matter.

13. The *Bharat Mitra* [Calcutta] of the 3rd September is sorry that some one hundred men of Benares were fined Rs. 50 each on a charge of being members of an unlawful assembly and making hideous grimaces at a

BHARAT MITRA,
Sept. 3rd, 1900.

Popular feeling regarding the police.

constable who, having been convicted and sentenced to three months' rigorous imprisonment, was being taken to jail. Such an assembly is an every-day occurrence. Whenever any town or place is visited by a high official, or by a Prince of the Royal Family, people gather in a mass to have a look at him. The only difference between the two assemblies was that the former was intended to see a policeman punished for his cruelty, while the latter was to welcome an official or a prince. The decision passed in this case shows that to see a policeman punished is legally a crime. There is a limit to everything. Police oppression, too, must have a limit. The people have borne very meekly the oppression committed upon them by the police. But, if further oppressed, they will become angry, and anger may in time produce disturbances. The Cawnpore riot case is enough to show this. When the people of Cawnpore became excited on account of the plague rules, they attacked the police and killed six of them. They were so indignant at the conduct of the police that they were waiting for an opportunity to wreak vengeance. This state of affairs has made the well-wishers of India very sorry. To insult the police is almost tantamount to insulting the Government. The rising of the subject is bad both for the Government and for the country. The case in question shows to what extent the people are angry with the police. Why were the people of Benares so glad to see the constable punished? Government ought to direct its attention to the matter and ought to keep a sharp eye on the police. The *Hakims* ought to be warned against showing any undue favour to the police. Police oppression ought to be put down and the people ought to be reassured. If this is not done, there is no knowing what the fate of the Indian people may be. The growing ill-feeling between the police and the people is very much exercising the minds of those who know the character of the people. If the police is allowed to remain oppressive, no one can say what the final result of the affair will be.

(b)—Working of the Courts.

BIKASH,
Aug. 28th, 1900.

14. The *Bikash* [Barisal] of the 28th August has received many complaints against the revaluation department of the road-cess office in Barisal. Many people who produced their papers before, have been called upon to produce them again. This is causing much trouble to landholders.

SRI SRI VISHNU
PRIYA-O-
ANANDA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
Aug. 29th, 1900.

15. The *Sri Sri Vishnu Priya-o-Ananda Bazar Patrika* [Calcutta] of the 29th August writes as follows:—

The Cawnpore sentence.

The relatives of the accused in the Cawnpore riot case assembled in the court-room to hear the judgment. Not a soul among them knew beforehand what the sentences would be. And not for a moment did either the accused or their relatives think that they would be suddenly struck down by a bolt from the blue. It is, therefore, easy to form an idea of the frightful condition into which they were all thrown on hearing the death sentences pronounced. A European correspondent of the *Pioneer*, who witnessed the scene which followed the passing of the sentences, has given a pathetic description of it. Heart-rending was the scene which occurred when the prisoners were taken out of the court-house to be conducted to the jail. Their relatives surrounded them in order to have a last look at them, and wished to accompany them to the jail gate. But the police, in a most hard-hearted manner, beat and drove them away.

Mr. Sanders, the Sessions Judge of Cawnpore, gave proof of the utmost strength of mind when passing the sentences. But it is not known whether his heart did not melt on witnessing the scene which followed the passing of the sentences. It may be that the scene brought repentance into his mind and made him think that he had done wrong by sentencing twenty men to death for killing six persons. He may have also thought that in a riot in which thousands of men took part, it was not possible to detect and identify the real offenders. If the scene moved him at all, the thought might also have occurred to him that there might be innocent men among those twenty upon whom he had passed the extreme sentence under the law.

If his action in sentencing twenty persons to death has made Mr. Sanders repent of it, he should retire from the service and spend the remainder of his

life on earth in some lonely place praying for the souls of those whom he has condemned to death.

16. Referring to the case of Private Sullivan, the same paper writes as follows:—

The Sullivan case.

Before the murder of Ganpat, the tailor, no one knew Sullivan to be insane, as he had never acted like one not in a sound state of mind. If he had done this, everybody would have said immediately after the murder that he was mad, and that he committed it not knowing what he was about. If he had been really mad, some sign of his madness would also have been forthcoming some time or other in his conduct towards other men. But, supposing that he was mad, was it not strange that he murdered no one else except the one man against whom he had a grudge? At the time of his trial, when asked his name, he understood the question, but gave himself a wrong name. His madness did not stand in the way of his rightly understanding the questions that were asked him, but influenced only his answers. This clearly shows that he feigned madness. We know that insanity can exist in various forms. But we also know that men often feign madness under necessity. And we have grave doubts about the sufficiency of the medical examination to which Sullivan was subjected. We think it impossible for any medical man to ascertain whether a man is really suffering from insanity or is only feigning it within so short a time as Dr. Bomford considered sufficient to pronounce Sullivan insane. If a man feigns insanity with a purpose, we consider it impossible to make the detection in the course of a day or two. Dr. Tanner says:—"The diagnosis of insanity is, on many occasions, attended with great difficulty." He also says:—"Give him (a man who feigns insanity) time, and he is certain to betray himself." According to the same authority, if a man is really insane, a gradual change in his conduct and manners must be clear to his friends and relatives. But, in the present case, neither Major Brown, who knew the accused well, nor any other acquaintance of Sullivan's, had observed any changes in him. There was also no evidence to show that Sullivan had become mad, or that there was cause for his becoming mad, on the very day on which the murder was committed. The medical evidence only said that he was mad, but was silent as to the time when the disease commenced. However, Sullivan has escaped punishment. A native, however, would not have been allowed to escape in a similar manner if he had murdered a European. The result of Sullivan's trial is likely to cause an alarm in the country. It would be a serious thing if evil-minded people inferred from the result of the case that a murderer can escape justice by feigning madness.

17. The *Prabhat* [Calcutta] of the 29th August has the following with reference to the decision in the Sullivan case:—

The Sullivan case.

The whole country was anxious to know the decision in this case. There was nothing to show that Sullivan was mad. It is long since he entered the army, and he has come to this country not very recently. If he had shown any signs of insanity, he would have been placed either in the lunatic asylum or under medical treatment. It has been ascertained that Sullivan had a grudge against the deceased master-tailor, and that he showed no signs of insanity when he killed him. No signs of mental aberration were displayed even when he was taken into custody. Neither his comrades nor his official superiors said anything in their deposition which might lead any one to suspect his sanity. The plea of insanity was first urged when the trial of the case in the Police Court was finished, and the Magistrate was about to commit the accused to the Sessions. This surprised the public, and the Magistrate refused to accept the plea. It was, however, understood that the defence would plead insanity in the High Court.

How will Sullivan escape?—this was the question which every one was discussing. He committed the murder in broad daylight. He had no quarrel with the deceased before he killed him. He had absolutely no provocation, and he deliberately killed the master-tailor, who was at work. It was then ascertained that the deceased had once become instrumental in getting Sullivan punished, and that Sullivan had, therefore, a grudge against him. Sullivan had long been nourishing that grudge, and he wreaked his vengeance as soon as an

SRI SRI VISHNU
PRITHA-O-
ANANDA BASAR
PATRIKA,
Aug. 29th, 1900.

PRABHAT,
Aug. 29th, 1900.

opportunity presented itself. The motive was, indeed, apparently out of proportion to the offence committed, but, so far as the European soldier is concerned, to kill a native is an insignificant offence.

But Lord Curzon does not think so. How was, then, Sullivan to be saved? If he were convicted of murder, he was sure to be sentenced to death; for there was no mitigating circumstance in his favour to warrant a lighter sentence. It was, however, at last given out that Sullivan was mad, and was not, therefore, responsible for his action. Distinguished medical men testified to Sullivan's insanity. What could the Judge and the jury do? The expert medical evidence decided the case in Sullivan's favour.

It cannot be said whether Sullivan is really mad, or has deceived the medical experts, who examined him, by feigning madness. We are bound to accept the decision unanimously arrived at by the Judge, the jury, and the medical experts. But still we have many things to say. Granted that a sane man may turn insane after committing a murder, that Sullivan turned mad either at the time of, or after the commission of, the offence, and that he could not be tried. But sane Europeans kill natives and are let off scot-free, or are very lightly punished. Why is *this* so?

The impression has grown in the public mind that a European, who has killed a native, is sure to escape somehow or other. Since the O'Hara case the public has learnt to take it for granted that even if a European offender is, by mistake, sentenced to death, he is sure to be acquitted on a retrial, or by some other means. A European will never be sentenced to death, or severely punished, for killing a native. This is why European oppression and European high-handedness are increasing. Such oppression will cease if a European murderer of a native is once sentenced to death. What will Lord Curzon's indignation avail? He may secure some sort of punishment for a European offender, but he will never be able to get a European murderer of a native sentenced to death. Did the Judge and the jury ever take the trouble to ascertain the public feeling in the matter? What does it matter to the Europeans in India that the mind of the Viceroy is troubled by such failures of justice? What does it matter to them if a stain is cast on the British administration of justice? The Government should, however, consider who will be to blame if European offenders are always acquitted in this way.

PRABHAT,
Aug. 29th, 1900.

18. Referring to the case in which one Ghasi Muchi sued Mr. Jarbo, Deputy Magistrate, Midnapore, for the price of a pair of shoes supplied to him, the same paper writes that the suit has been decreed with cost. It should be considered whether a person who does not pay his shoe-maker's dues is fit for the Bench.

BASUMATI,
Aug. 30th, 1900.

19. The *Basumati* [Calcutta] of the 30th August has the following:—
The curtain has at length fallen on the plague rioters. The sentence on the Cawnpore rioters. We have no wish to say anything about the trial of the rioters; for any reference to it would only increase public mortification. While the European soldier in Fort William, who shot a poor native, has been let off by the High Court on the plea of insanity, the Sessions Judge of Cawnpore has awarded the severest punishment on a number of natives whom fear of the plague measures really drove mad, and who, in their madness, killed some men. Both are English courts of justice; the trial in both cases was conducted in accordance with the English law: the only difference being in the colour of the accused. The Sessions Judge has discharged four of the accused, sentenced one to transportation, and passed capital sentence on twenty. On the day the orders of the Judge were announced, the court-house compound resounded with the lamentations of the relatives of the prisoners. How heart-rending were their wailings! Men possessing a feeling heart, who heard those cries, could not restrain their tears, but the dutiful police could not bear such impertinence on the part of the unfortunate creatures and, with the help of their batons, drove them away as if they were so many dogs. Under the English law it is certainly proper that those who, though conscious of their weakness, were still unable to bow submissively to the rigorous discipline of the plague officers, and who, fearing that their mothers and daughters might be subjected to dishonour, did not hesitate to smash the heads of Government servants, should be sentenced

to pay the extreme penalty of the law, otherwise the law would cease to be respected in the country, and the Government would lose its prestige. Illiterate people, with no sense of right and wrong and ignorant of law, have this time been made to feel the mighty prestige of the Government, and will surely learn their duty in future. But the troubles of their miserable life would have been considerably lightened if they had received their several sentences without passing through this farce of a trial.

Those that have been ordered to be hanged may be regarded as already dead. They do not possess the mental strength which can bring them consolation or impart to them patience and firmness in their present condition. They do not know that there is a life that is everlasting beyond the limits of this life. Their agony is therefore unavoidable. With one stroke of his pen, the Judge is about to expedite the exit of twenty human beings from this world to the next! His sense of duty is strong. He is seated on the seat of judgment. How can he sit firm and unshaken on that seat without passing a capital sentence on the men who have killed police constables? But what is, after all, the cause of this severe sentence which has been passed on a large number of men? The fear of reckless and rigorous plague measures. When fear drives men mad, they lose the sense of right and wrong, and do not want to go to court, engage counsel, submit petitions and wait for justice at the hands of the Judge. In their madness they take up their *lathis*. Ignorant men have always done and will ever do so. It therefore follows that it is better to apply preventive remedies than to stamp out disease by killing the patient. We are gradually becoming accustomed to the spectacle of twenty men hanging for the offence of killing five! There is nothing to wonder at in that. But it strikes us that the existence among Christians, aye, among human beings, of such heartless and rigorous penal law, is an insult to religion, to humanity, and to God.

20. The *Jyoti* [Chittagong] of the 30th August complains that people submitting written statements under section 145

A complaint against the Chittagong criminal courts.

of the Criminal Procedure Code are made to pay a court-fee by the local criminal courts. This is contrary to section 19 of the Court-fees Act. In some courts bail is also demanded. This is certainly objectionable.

JYOTI,
Aug. 30th, 1900.

21. The same paper complains that the Subdivisional Officer of Cox's Bazar, Chittagong, has gone out touring during this rainy season, and is holding court in course of his tour, thereby causing great trouble to litigants.

The Subdivisional Officer of Cox's Bazar.

No other Subdivisional Officer went out touring during the rainy season. It is hoped that the Subdivisional Officer will reconsider the matter.

JYOTI.

22. Referring to the decree which has been obtained against Mr. Jarbo, Deputy Magistrate of Midnapore, by a shoe-maker, the *Sanjivani* [Calcutta] of the 30th August says that something ought to be done to prevent men like Mr. Jarbo from disgracing the Bench.

Mr. Jarbo, Deputy Magistrate of Midnapore.

SANJIVANI,
Aug. 30th, 1900.

23. The *Khulna* [Khulna] of the 30th August fails to see under what law Mr. Mukharji, Magistrate of Khulna, has ordered all appeals submitted by prisoners through the agency of mukhtars and pleaders to be stamped with the

An order issued by the Magistrate of Khulna.

proper court-fee. As all appeals preferred by prisoners are exempt from court-fee under the Court-fees Act, and as the rule laid down by Mr. Mukharji obtains nowhere else, it is hoped he will reconsider his order.

KHULNA,
Aug. 30th, 1900.

24. The same paper says that the combination of both criminal and collectorate work in the hands of the same Deputy Magistrate often becomes a source of inconvenience to the public. In the Khulna Sadar there are at

An inconvenience caused by the combination of judicial and revenue functions.

present five Deputy Magistrates, one of whom is wholly employed on revaluation work. The result of this is that the other Deputy Magistrates, who have to do both criminal and revenue work, cannot attend to the former work till two or three o'clock in the evening, and therefore try to hurry through the cases on their files. This causes extreme inconvenience to parties and pleaders. Considering the small amount of criminal work in Khulna, it would conduce very much to public convenience, if two Deputy Magistrates were wholly employed on criminal work, the rest doing collectorate work.

KHULNA.

KHULNA,
Aug. 30th, 1900.

25. The same paper says that the sentence in the Cawnpore riot case is such as was never before heard of in the world. Twenty persons sentenced to death in one and the same trial is a thing that never before happened. By a stroke of his pen, the Judge has ordered the taking away of the lives of twenty men created by God. May God forbid it; but if the High Court does not alter or modify the sentence, what a ghastly scene that will be—the hanging of the twenty men! It is true the men had committed fearful excesses; but the Judge ought to have remembered that they did so under the excitement caused by the introduction of the plague rules.

KHULNA.

26. The same paper says that, as the record-room in Jessore is proving too small for the accommodation of the records of both the Jessore and the Khulna district, the records of the latter district ought to be removed to the record-room in Khulna, which now lies vacant. Government need not put itself to the expense of extending the record-room in Jessore. The removal of the records of the Khulna district to the Khulna record-room will be a boon to the Khulna people.

HITAVADI,
Aug. 31st, 1900.

27. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 31st August has the following with reference to the decision in the Sullivan case:—
The Sullivan case. When the doctors say that Private Sullivan is insane, no one has any right to suspect that his madness is feigned—this may be the view taken by the law, but it will not be appreciated by common sense. You are at liberty to commit murder, you are at liberty to acquit the murderer; but why do you try to befool the Indian and the English public by pretending to administer impartial justice? Let hundreds of Bomfords, thousands of Harrisses, and lakhs of O'Kinealys declare Sullivan insane,—their opinion will not remove the public impression regarding him. Let us explain why.

In the first place, no one suspected Sullivan's sanity before the commission of the murder. He showed no signs of insanity, acted like a man of ordinary intelligence, and shot the man against whom he had a grudge. He showed no signs of insanity, either in speech or in action, when he was taken into custody. But when, in the end, he saw that he had no other course left open to him than to feign madness, he was compelled to follow that course. It is not very difficult for common sense to understand whether Sullivan's insanity is real or feigned.

In the second place, the public has very little confidence in medical opinion. It is admitted that there are many truthful, conscientious, and impartial doctors, but it is also the public impression that medical opinion can be bought. Double or treble the fee, and a doctor will give you any certificate—this is everybody's opinion. Never did any man suffer any inconvenience for the want of a medical certificate? In the present case, of course, it was distinguished doctors who testified to Sullivan's insanity. But how can we say that the public has unflinching confidence in their opinion?

But let alone public prejudice. Even a doctor may err. Even distinguished doctors may fail to evince that care, that patience, that experience, which are required in the examination of the accused. We have no doubt that, in the case under notice, the doctors did not take the necessary amount of care or trouble in the medical examination of the prisoner, and performed their duty in a most perfunctory manner. Sullivan was not kept under medical observation for that length of time which is recommended by eminent authorities on medical jurisprudence. In declaring a man insane, the medical expert should state the grounds on which his opinion is based. In the present case no doctor, with the exception of Dr. O'Kinealy, cared to make such a statement.

But Dr. O'Kinealy's diagnosis seems to be at fault. A stare or such other symptoms as Sullivan is stated by Dr. O'Kinealy to have manifested are not the characteristic symptoms of insanity. Dr. O'Kinealy need not have taken the trouble to state these symptoms in his deposition. Sleeplessness is a characteristic symptom of insanity. Did Dr. O'Kinealy, or any other doctor, examine Sullivan on this point? No such question was put to the medical experts from the Government-side. Is this not somewhat strange?

According to medical jurisprudence, a patient should be carefully examined on the following points before he is declared insane :—

- (1) the action of the stomach and the condition of the skin ;
- (2) the beating of the pulse ; and
- (3) the nature of sleep and pronounciation.

The doctors did not say whether they had examined Sullivan on these points. This was a serious shortcoming on their part.

As for inconsistent answers, if the patient can understand the questions put to him, but only gives inconsistent and incorrect answers, that is not a symptom of genuine insanity. In England, an old woman feigned madness by saying that she had four fingers on her hand and that two and two made six. Private Sullivan has feigned madness like that old woman. He was asked his name, and what he gave out as his name was not his name. Being questioned whether he was a soldier or not, he replied that he was not a soldier. Being asked how long he was in India, he answered that he never had been to India. He readily and without fail understood the questions. His insanity, therefore, comes under the category of "feigned insanity : silly answers to questions."—It is not genuine insanity.

This being the case, our common sense tells us that this Private Sullivan is not mad,—let medical experts say what they like. The country will be made too hot for us if people can escape the gallows by feigning madness in this way. "Mad soldiers" will make it impossible for us to move about freely. People will think that the Government will, out of undue race partiality, let off accused soldiers without an impartial trial. The public will not attribute these failures of justice to carelessness, shortcoming or partiality of this or that official. They will hold the Government responsible for all such sad failures of justice.

But what could the Judge or the jury do? Blame those who conducted the case on behalf of the Government, blame the doctors, and above all, blame the lot of the native. A soldier kills a tailor in the Fort, in broad daylight, to satisfy a grudge. Shame to our laws, shame to our administration of justice, shame to our medical profession, shame to our system of government, if this murderer can escape by feigning madness. The public will not be satisfied so long as the Government does not prevent these miscarriages of justice, brought about by such dreadful partiality.

28. Referring to the decision in the Cawnpore plague riot case, the same paper writes that such a death sentence as this is rare in the world. It is nothing but barbarity to inflict such a punishment on those whom the severe plague measures had almost goaded to madness, and who had almost lost their sense. The accused will appeal to the High Court, and we hope that the High Court will take their condition into its consideration.

HITAVADI,
Aug. 31st, 1900.

29. The *Samay* [Calcutta] of the 31st August has the following with reference to the decision in the Cawnpore plague riot case :—

The Cawnpore sentence.

SAMAY,
Aug. 31st, 1900.

It will be impossible to maintain peace in the country if wicked rioters are not punished. On this ground the Government is justified in punishing rioters, and nobody will object to their punishment. But what a cruel punishment is this! Twenty people have been sentenced to death for the murder of five or six men! It is strange that such a cruel and inhuman punishment should be inflicted under the civilised British rule. What was the cause of this riot? The severity of plague measures and the high-handedness of plague officers threw the ignorant masses into a panic. They lost their sense and were driven almost mad. Can a man be held responsible for what he does in this frame of mind? Why should he, then, be punished for his acts? Private Sullivan, in the full possession of his senses and in broad daylight, killed a native; but he feigned madness, and his trial was postponed. Why is not this done in the case of native offenders? Again, was there any eye-witness of the offence of the twenty-one men who have been convicted? Such a strange decision is possible in India and in India alone.

BANGAVASI,
Sept. 1st, 1900.

30. The *Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 1st September has the following with reference to the decision in the Bogra case:—

The Bogra case.

After the confirmation of the sentence in the Bogra case by the Calcutta High Court, nothing can be said about it. But we request the Lieutenant-Governor to pay attention to the prayer of the unfortunate woman. The prisoner says that she has a suckling in her arms, and that it will die if she is hanged. Churha Bibi has been convicted of murder: let her be transported for life instead of being hanged. Let justice be tempered with mercy.

One thing more. The husband of the prisoner deposed that she was *encierte*. But the Sessions Judge did not accept his evidence. But who can prove this fact except the husband? The Sessions Judge, however, could have decided this question more satisfactorily than he has done. He might have appointed a female jury, without violating precedent. In 1861, a woman of Bombay, of the name of Ganga, killed another woman. The prisoner said that she was *encierte*, and the Court appointed a female jury to examine the accused and decide this point. The jury declared that the prisoner was not *encierte*, and she was accordingly sentenced to death. Could not the same procedure be followed in the present case? Let not the Governor-General and the Lieutenant-Governor remain indifferent.

(d)—Education.

SANSODHINI,
Aug. 24th, 1900.

31. The *Sansodhini* [Chittagong] of the 24th August fails to see for what special aptitude Mr. S. W. Percival, fourth teacher

An examiner in the Upper Primary Examination in the Chittagong district.

of the Chittagong Collegiate School, has again this year been appointed examiner in arithmetic in the Upper Primary Examination in the Chittagong

district. Mr. Percival knows neither Bengali nor arithmetic well, and is most probably quite innocent of all knowledge of *Subhankari*, a subject in the Upper Primary Examination.

ROZNAMA-I-MUKADDAS
DAS HABUL
MATEEN,
Aug. 27th, 1900.

32. The *Roznama-i-Mukaddas Habul Mateen* [Calcutta] of the 27th August

Female education among Musal-
mans.

is sorry that a Europeanised Musalman has written a pamphlet advocating female education among Musalmans. The writer has tried to show that

female liberty is a very good thing. Such a pamphlet is calculated to do harm to Musalman society. The writer ought not to set about writing another such pamphlet. Nowadays even Europeans are admiring the *purda*-system of Musalmans, and are taking great interest in the *purda*-question.

PRABHAT,
Aug. 29th, 1900.

33. The *Prabhat* [Calcutta] of the 29th August understands that there are

The Principalship of the Sans-
krit College.

two candidates for the Principalship of the Sanskrit College, which is soon going to fall vacant by the retirement of Mahamahopadhyaya Nilmani Nyaya-

lankar. Whoever these candidates may be, it is hoped that in filling the vacancy, the Government will take only the merit and fitness of a candidate into its consideration, and not any certificates or letters of recommendation that may be produced.

PRABHAT.

34. The same paper is glad to understand that the authorities of the Eden Hindu Hostel are keeping a sharp watch over the

The Eden Hindu Hostel.

brothels in front of the hostel. It is not, however, likely that the steps that they have taken will produce any good effect. On the 24th August last, for instance, a man paid a visit to one of the brothels and went on singing obscene songs up to a late hour of the night. These songs were no doubt heard by the hostel inmates. This being the case, the hostel authorities ought to apply to the Police Commissioner for removing these prostitutes from the neighbourhood of the hostel. Why are the hostel authorities delaying to apply to the Police Commissioner?

SANJIVANI,
Aug. 30th, 1900.

35. The *Sanjivani* [Calcutta] of the 30th August says that it is due to the

The financial condition of the
Calcutta University.

skilful management of the affairs of the Calcutta University by Rai Trailokya Nath Banerji, Bahadur, Assistant Registrar, that the income of the Univer-

sity is increasing, whilst its expenditure is decreasing. In 1899-1900, the total income was Rs. 2,48,452, and the total expenditure Rs. 2,03,233. In the

previous year, there was Rs. 25,407-1-9 in the reserve fund; and during the year 1899-1900, Rs. 54,011-10-10 was deposited in that fund. The University also possessed during that year Government securities for Rs. 4,35,000. But, considering how income is increasing, why does not the University purchase the *busti* land at the back of the building in order to enlarge the examination hall and construct a library? The University ought to have a model library, where college students should be allowed to read free of charge.

36. The *Chinsura Vartavaha* [Chinsura] of the 2nd September understands that Mahamahopadhyaya Pandit Hara Prasad Sastri is going to be appointed to the Principalship of the Sanskrit College. The Sastri's promotion is a matter of satisfaction. He is a sound Sanskrit scholar. A courteous and experienced pandit like him is rare in these days.

CHINSURA
VARTAVAHA,
Sept. 2nd, 1900.

(e)—Local Self-Government and Municipal Administration.

37. A correspondent of the *Tripura Hitaishi* [Comilla] of the 28th August complains of the insanitary and neglected condition of Comilla town. Not only are its roads bad, but the drains also are in an extremely filthy condition, and the privies are seldom served twice a week. There are holes on the roads full of mud and cow-dung. The streets in most parts of the town are not lighted. The practice of the night-soil carts passing through the public streets after sun-rise should be stopped.

TRIPURA HITAIISHI,
Aug. 28th, 1900.

38. The *Medini Bandhav* [Midnapore] of the 29th August draws attention to the foul condition of the tank, named Bhuiyapukur, in Paharipur, in Midnapore town, and says that if the Municipality does not soon take steps to put a stop to the stench proceeding from the tank, the health of the surrounding places will be affected.

MEDINI BANDHAV,
Aug. 29th, 1900.

39. The *Sri Sri Vishnu Priya-o-Ananda Bazar Patrika* [Calcutta] of the 29th August fails to see for what good reason the Committee, appointed by the Cossipore-Chitpur Municipality to select a site for the proposed municipal office building, has chosen a site in Tala, at one extremity of the municipal area. It is also a mystery why the choice of the Committee was not made known for three months at any general meeting of the Municipality. The building ought to be in a central position, especially as the dispensary attached to the municipal office has to serve at least two wards; and the best site for it would be at the crossing of the Grand Trunk Road with the Gun Foundry Road. But as the Committee is looking to personal convenience more than to the interests of the rate-payers, Government should interfere in the matter.

SRI SRI VISHNU
PRIYA-O-
ANANDA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
Aug. 29th, 1900.

40. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 31st August complains of mismanagement in the Panihati Municipality in the 24-Parganas district. The road sides and the waste lands in the village are overgrown with jungle. Filth is accumulating on the roads, as it is removed only twice a week, and that very irregularly. The *mehter* service is also very unsatisfactory. It is hoped that the Municipality will remove these causes of insanitation.

HITAVADI,
Aug. 31st, 1900.

41. The *Mihir-o-Sudhakar* [Calcutta] of the 31st August says that the people of this country not being yet fit for Local Self-Government, that privilege is doing them more harm than good. The late election in the Jadurhati Union in the Basirhat subdivision of the 24-Parganas district was made in violation of the terms of the Bengal Government notification, dated the 15th June, 1895. No members were elected from Gokna, Sherpur and Srirampore, which, under the notification, ought to have elected a member each, whilst a member was elected from each of the villages Rajbere and Stribpore, although none of them should have, under the same notification, any privilege to elect a member. Again, Khaspur was to have elected one member; but it has elected two members, living close to each other. The members elected are not fit by their social position either to represent the twenty-one villages under the jurisdiction of the Union, or to assess upon the villagers the drainage-tax which has been ordered by the District and Local Boards.

MIHIR-O-SUDHAKAR,
Aug. 31st, 1900.

The irregularities connected with the election are due solely to the carelessness of the Subdivisional Officer of Basirhat.

CHINSURA
VARTAVANA,
Sept. 2nd, 1900.

42. The *Chinsura Vartavana* [Chinsura] of the 2nd September complains that *mehter* service in the Chinsura Municipality is very unsatisfactory. The latrines are served late and the night-soil is removed generally between 6 and 9-30 A.M. This is a great nuisance.

(g)—*Railways and communications including canals and irrigation.*

TRIPURA,
HITAISHI,
Aug. 28th, 1900.

43. A correspondent of the *Tripura Hitaishi* [Comilla] of the 28th August complains of the bad condition of the road which, issuing from a point on the Tippera-Chittagong road south of Singh's Bazar, passes through Raja's Bazar and stops at Mestola-Munshi's Bazar in the Tippera district. In the rainy season, the road becomes a ditch, being full of mud and water.

MEDINI BANDHAV,
Aug. 29th, 1900.

44. A correspondent of the *Medini Bandhav* [Midnapore] of the 29th August complains of the bad condition of the road, named Dagrakur Gulle, leading to the Pilgrims' Road in Midnapore town. Only a portion of it was repaired last year. Considering the importance of the road, which gives entrance to the town to a large number of traders every day, the entire road ought to be soon repaired and provided with drains.

BASUMATI,
Aug. 30th, 1900.

45. The *Basumati* [Calcutta] of the 30th August understands that some clerks in the Examiner's Office, Eastern Bengal State Railway, have been dismissed on the ground of inefficiency. One of them is a clerk of fifteen years' service, who had been promoted for his efficiency. An assistant of the Head Booking Clerk of Sealdah was fined and sentenced to imprisonment for cheating. But he has been promoted to the post of Accountant in the Examiner's office, because he is a European. But the native clerks, who failed to detect his cheating, have been dismissed for inefficiency. Such a mysterious thing as this can take place in India and in India alone. It is no exaggeration to say that in India, native clerks have to depend helplessly on the whims and caprices of their European office-masters, and their efficiency and faithful service are of no account if they incur their displeasure.

MIHIR-O-SUDHAKAR,
Aug. 31st, 1900.

46. Some raiyats of the Arambagh subdivision of the Hooghly district, writing in the *Mihir-o-Sudhakar* [Calcutta] of the 31st August, draw attention to the necessity of repairing the road from Arambagh to Krishnagar, passing through the villages Madhavpur, Pandugram and Arandigram, and of converting the narrow foot-path, which, issuing from the above road, passes across fields, through Pandugram, Joysinha Chock, Bihi Baghnan to village, Baghnan, into a road. This path serves the people of about fifty villages, and was first constructed by the raiyats for their own use, and has all along been kept in repair by them.

HITAKARI,
Aug. 31st, 1900.

47. The *Hitakari* [Kushtia] of the 31st August draws attention to the bad condition of the road from the Halsia station on the Eastern Bengal State Railway to Goswami-Durgapur in the Nadia district. The road has not been repaired since its construction fifteen or sixteen years ago.

BANGAVASI,
Sept. 1st, 1900.

48. A correspondent of the *Bangavasi* [Calcutta] thus reports, in its issue of the 1st September, on the recent accident on the Bengal-Nagpur Railway:—

The accident on the Orissa line. On the 19th August last, the mail train from Puri-Khurda reached Balasore at about 12 midnight. The train then left Balasore, and in crossing a small bridge the engine was derailed and fell from the bundh, carrying down eight carriages with it. One carriage then rode on another carriage. This occurred at about 12-30 A.M. The accident was so sudden and unexpected that not a voice was heard for some time, and there was perfect silence. It seemed as if the whole train was empty, or its passengers had all died, or had lost their speech. The surrounding country was flooded, and the Burhobalung was in flood. Nothing was heard but the roar of the torrent.

But soon the silence was broken. The driver of the train came with a torch, and it was then that the cries and groans of the passengers were heard.

Nothing, of course, was heard from the dead, but the faint heart-rending cries of the dying and the loud and agonising cries of the wounded disturbed the profound silence of the night. The position was extremely critical. The place where the accident had occurred was not in telegraphic communication with the railway stations. So, the driver walked up to the next station (Baripada), which was at a distance of five miles, and telegraphed the accident to the railway authorities.

The night passed away. Next morning it was found that of five European passengers, one by the name of Henry Wood, had been killed. He had come from Bangalore, where he was a school-master. Mr. Cook, another European passenger, and his wife, had been severely wounded. Of the native passengers, 11 had died and about 25 had been wounded.

About 10 o'clock, a train came with an engine, a doctor and medical appliances. Some of the passengers were placed in this train, but as another bridge between this train and the derailed train had been breached, all the passengers could not be transhipped. If the train had arrived a little earlier, this would not have been the case. So, all the native passengers excepting the wounded had to wait—the first class passengers for one day and the rest for two days—at that unsheltered and inhospitable place.

(h)—General.

49. The *Bikash* [Barisal] of the 28th August has received many complaints against Babu Rajani Nath Basu, B.A., the new Special Sub-Registrar of Barisal. Some of the complaints are of so serious a nature that the writer can scarcely bring himself to believe them as true. It is hoped Rajani Babu will not give the writer opportunity for saying more unpleasant things against him.

BIKASH,
Aug. 28th, 1900.

50. The *Sanjivani* [Calcutta] of the 30th August has learnt from a correspondent that during his stay of an hour and-a-half in Dumraon, the Lieutenant-Governor did nothing except hold a private interview with the Maharani.

SANJIVANI,
Aug. 30th, 1900.

Did the Lieutenant-Governor then go to Dumraon to make an enquiry into the various allegations that had been made in the press against Mr. Fox, Manager of the State? Sir John Woodburn knows Urdu, and he did not require the assistance of an interpreter in conversing with the Maharani. It would be extremely convenient for administrative purposes if all rulers learnt the language of their subjects and were able to converse with them personally.

51. The same paper says that Lord Curzon and Sir John Woodburn are rapidly winning the hearts of the Bengalis by their sense of justice. The non-appointment of an able officer like Mr. K. G. Gupta to a Divisional Commissionership lent a handle to many people to reproach Government with making race distinction. The Viceroy and the Lieutenant-Governor are going to remove that reproach by appointing Mr. Gupta to a Commissionership.

SANJIVANI.

52. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 31st August writes as follows:—

The Deputy Post-master General of Rajputana.

Mr. Graves, Deputy Post-Master General of Rajputana, has recently ordered that none but Musalmans shall be appointed in the Rajputana Postal Department. He has also instructed his office to take special care that Bengalis and Mahrattas are not appointed. We cannot approve of this order; for it will sow seeds of dissension and hatred among the Bengalis and Biharis, Mahrattas and Gujratis. It is a regret that those who do not observe the caste system, should, by their conduct, fan caste prejudice and caste hatred into a flame. In making appointments, the Government should take into consideration only the qualifications of a candidate and nothing else. During the Musalman rule, ability in a Hindu officer was sufficient to raise him to the post of Minister. What could be more regrettable than that, under the civilised British rule, mere ability is no passport even to the post of a clerk in a Government office?

HITAVADI,
Aug. 31st, 1900.

PRATIVASI,
Sept. 3rd, 1900.

53. The *Prativasi* [Calcutta] of the 3rd September writes as follows:—

Appointment of natives to high posts.

It seems that race distinction will no longer exert any influence on the administration of Lord Curzon and Sir John Woodburn. The appointment of Babu Purna Chandra Mitra to the Junior Secretaryship of the Revenue Board is one proof of this. It is also heard that Mr. K. G. Gupta will be soon appointed to a Commissionership. Mr. Gupta is in every respect fit for a Commissionership, and it was his complexion which so long stood in the way of his promotion to it. Sir John Woodburn is known for his impartiality and sympathy with the natives, and it is hoped that the rumour about Mr. Gupta's promotion will prove true.

These promotions of native officers are, no doubt, meant as an experiment. It is hoped that the experiment will be successful, and the Government will appreciate the utility of appointing natives to high posts. There is no reason to suspect the fitness of native officials. But let not the Government be influenced by *salaam* and recommendation in making its selections. Otherwise the laudable experiment will fail. Let only those native officers be promoted to high posts about whose honesty and efficiency there is not the slightest doubt. In promoting such officers the Government will display its impartiality and its capacity to recognise merit, and will at the same time infuse new zeal and enthusiasm into the service. The promotion of unworthy officers is only calculated to do harm to the country. Upon the success of the experiment in question depends the future of the country: it is intimately associated with the country's best interests. It is, therefore, incumbent upon the Government to be impartial and scrutinising in making its selections for appointment to high posts. The Government has showed such scrutiny and impartiality in the appointment of Babu Purna Chandra Mitra. May it show such wisdom in all its selections. The appointment of Mr. Gupta to a Commissionership will raise Sir John in the public estimation. If Mr. Gupta is appointed a Commissioner, may not his Personal Assistant be given a trial in the Excise Commissionership?

BHARAT MITRA,
Sept. 3rd, 1900.

54. The *Bharat Mitra* [Calcutta] of the 3rd September is sorry that a

Prosecution of a Benares paper for sedition.

charge of sedition has been brought against the newspaper *Kalidas*, published in Benares city. The editor, printer and publisher of the paper have each been required by the Court to give bail for one thousand rupees. It is to be asked, what makes the Government bring a charge of sedition when peace reigns supreme everywhere? The unrest caused by the Consent Bill necessitated the prosecution of the *Bangavasi*. The plague rules again created a feeling of disaffection among the Indians. To suppress this feeling the Government brought a charge of sedition against some vernacular papers whom it considered responsible for the mischief. But nowadays peace prevails everywhere, and expressions of loyalty are in every Indian mouth. At such a time and under the happy rule of Lord Curzon and Sir Antony MacDonnell no one ought to entertain any fear of disaffection. The *Kalidas* is a very insignificant paper, and very few men of light and leading have even heard its name. A few words of warning are enough to silence a people who are terrified by an angry glance from Government. A criminal prosecution is unnecessary for that purpose.

IV.—NATIVE STATES.

55. The *Bikash* [Barisal] of the 28th August says that though it is not

Travel by Native Chiefs.

right to interfere with personal liberty, the action of the Government of India in the matter of the visits paid by native princes to Europe will be productive of much good to the country. Those who fail in their duties ought to be kept under the stringent control of those who possess authority over them. It is hoped the Government's circular will bring the Native Chiefs to their senses.

BIKASH,
Aug. 28th, 1900.

56. The *Charu Mihir* [Mymensingh] of the 28th August says that by

Travel by Native Chiefs.

issuing his recent order in regard to the visits of Indian Princes to Europe, Lord Curzon has acted in accordance with public opinion in India, and has earned the gratitude of the Indian public.

CHARU MIHIR,
Aug. 28th, 1900.

57. The *Sri Sri Vishnu Priya-o-Ananda Bazar Patrika* [Calcutta] of the

The Bharatpur deposition.

29th August writes:—

We shall pass no opinion on the Government's action in deposing the Maharaja of Bharatpur. If His Highness is really incompetent to rule his State, it is not right to keep him in power. But Government would have been spared the unpleasant task of removing him now, if it had listened to the prayer of the late Maharaja Jaswant Singh not to give Ram Singh the *guddee*, and had given it to some other son of the deceased Maharaja.

58. The *Prabhat* [Calcutta] of the 29th August has the following:—

Travel by Native Princes.

In a letter addressed to all Local Governments, the Government of India has dealt with the question of European travel by Native Princes. The letter is issued under the direction of Lord Curzon; indeed, it seems to us, the draft of the letter has been revised by His Excellency himself. Thanks to Lord Curzon's strength of mind,—what had been an impossibility since the establishment of the Foreign Office is now an accomplished fact.

It is an admirable letter, and will be regarded as a mighty achievement of Lord Curzon's, for which His Lordship will be entitled to the gratitude of the Indian people.

It is a new disease, this love of European travel, which has seized the Native Princes of India. Twenty-five years ago, no Native Chief would leave his State and go to England or Europe; for, in those days, Native Chiefs considered it derogatory to their dignity to have to leave their own territories. That they came to Calcutta to pay visits to the Viceroy or to any Prince of the English Royal Family was because they could not help doing so. Voluntarily, or moved by curiosity or love of pleasure, they never crossed the boundaries of their States. That self-reliance is gone, and in the place of those dignified and spirited Chiefs there now reign, only in name, a lot of fickle youths, who have given themselves up to English luxury. Patiala is wandering about drinking and playing polo and cricket. Some there are who have no concern whatever with public affairs. Who shall compare the present young and restless Maharaja of Gwalior with his departed predecessor?

There is no certainty about the intentions and movements of those Native Princes who are fond of European travel. There is the Gaekwar. Hardly has he returned from one English visit than he is anxious to pay a second. The thought that the Indians do not use fork and spoon at dinner is the one thought in his mind, and it makes him miserable. Kapartala has been twice to England, and still his mouth waters at the name of England. Cooch Bihar is now in England, and the present, we think, is his third visit to that country. He may live anywhere else, but he does not like to live in Cooch Bihar. He may spend his time somehow in Calcutta, Darjeeling, or Simla, but he cannot spend a moment in his own State.

Lord Curzon recently paid a visit to Baroda, whose Prince is now witnessing the Exhibition in Paris, while his subjects are dying from starvation. Many other matters have come to His Excellency's notice in connection with this question of European travel by Native Princes, and the letter published under his authority is the result of this new experience.

There was no need of publishing the letter in the official *Gazette*. It would have been enough if the Foreign Office had only forwarded copies to Local Governments. But Lord Curzon was not satisfied with that. It is his desire that the people of India should know that the Government does not regard with satisfaction these visits of Native Princes to Europe. His Excellency also desires to publicly rebuke and put to shame the Chiefs who have grown fond of European travel. He has done extremely well by thus rebuking them.

What do the England-loving Rajas and Maharajas think of this ear-pulling to which they have been subjected? Baroda, Cooch Bihar, Kapartala, Gondal and others will, it seems, be overpowered with joy at reading this letter from the Indian Government, and will be eager to return to Europe soon after their arrival in this country from their English visits! We are exceedingly delighted to see that Princes like the Gaekwar and others, who are so lacking in sympathy with their subjects, have been rightly reproved by the Viceroy.

SRI SRI VISHNU
PRIYA-O-
ANANDA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
Aug. 29th, 1900.

PRABHAT,
Aug. 29th 1900.

Why visits to England alone? The visits of these idle, inefficient and dissipated Rajas and Maharajas, who are brutes or worse than brutes, to such places also as Simla, Darjeeling and Mahableshwar, &c., should be prohibited. Englishmen go to the hills. It is their pleasure. The whole country is subject to their rule. But as regards those wretched victims of luxury, the Native Princes, they cannot defend their States even for a day without the support and protection of the Paramount Power. Why should the Chief, who does not know how to govern his State and is unmindful of the welfare of his subjects, leave his own territory and amuse himself in the hills under the ægis of the British Government? Lord Curzon has discovered a way in which these Princes, the shame of their class, may be brought to their senses.

PRABHAT,
Aug. 29th, 1900.

59. The same paper has the following with reference to the deposition of the Maharaja of Bharatpur:—

The deposition of the Maharaja of Bharatpur.

Lord Curzon should first of all be thanked for this note. For this note would not have been published if he had not been the Viceroy. There is no other Department so powerful and so proud of its power as the Foreign Office. A Native Chief is punished or deposed, but the Foreign Office will not deign to acquaint the public with the reasons for its action. The Foreign Office does not care for anybody. There is no Foreign Member in the Viceroy's Council. The Viceroy himself holds the portfolio of the Department, and is assisted by a Foreign Secretary. We do not think that the note has been published at the suggestion of the Foreign Secretary. It is six years since the Maharaja of Bharatpur was deposed, but no one cared or dared to enquire why he was deposed. It is Lord Curzon and Lord Curzon alone who has thought it necessary to give publicity to the new order regarding the Maharaja of Bharatpur. He has not wished to conceal anything. He has stated the reasons for the deposition of the Maharaja, and the public are now at liberty to criticise his decision. In our opinion it will be very difficult to say anything in favour of the deposed Maharaja.

SANJIVANI,
Aug. 30th, 1900.

60. The *Sanjivani* [Calcutta] of the 30th August writes as follows:—

Travel by Native Chiefs.

The reason for the harsh order passed by the Government of India in regard to visits to Europe by Native Princes is that these visits interfere with the duties of the Princes towards their subjects, make the Princes, luxurious, and produce other bad effects on their character. But it is better to be a subject than a ruler with the restriction put upon Indian Princes by the Government of India. If Indian Princes become luxurious and inattentive to their duties in consequence of paying visits to Europe, do not the officials under the Government of India become so in consequence of paying visits to Simla and spending so much time there in amusements?

SANJIVANI.

61. The same paper says that it was not just to hold the Maharaja of Bharatpur guilty of murder and to depose him, without giving him an opportunity for clearing himself. The private manner in which the Maharaja's case has been disposed of will create a dangerous precedent.

The Bharatpur deposition.

BASUMATI,
Aug. 30th, 1900.

62. The *Basumati* [Calcutta] of the 30th August writes as follows with reference to the deposition of the Maharaja of Bharatpur:—

The Bharatpur deposition.

Lord Curzon is a far-sighted politician and a man of great self-control. This act, namely, the deposition of the Maharaja of Bharatpur, will not increase the reputation of his rule. Judging from the present political situation, the act cannot be said to be either wise or proper. India is neither Europe nor America, and the Indian people are in the habit of looking upon the pride, haughtiness and love of power on the part of a Native Chief as his divine rights—as his God-given privileges. They put up with the high-handedness and wickedness of a Native Chief more patiently than with his deposition, exile, or insult. They may not express their impatience, but still they feel a pain in their heart—a discontent and disgust, which are the results of their weakness. Where is the place in the world in which there is no oppression? Where is that scion of a rich family who does not waste his wealth? Among the scions of rich families, the number of lawless, drunken, and beastly brutes is by no means small. If the misery and poverty of the State were the cause of

the deposition of the Maharaja, that misery and that poverty might have been removed without taking such an extreme measure. As for the charge of murder against the Maharaja, it is still shrouded in mystery. No opinion can be passed so long as this mystery is not unveiled.

63. The *Jyoti* [Chittagong] of the 30th August writes as follows with reference to the circular restricting the European tours of Native Chiefs:—

Travel by Native Chiefs.

JYOTI,
Aug. 30th, 1900.

High-minded Lord Curzon! It is impossible to praise you too much for the care and solicitude with which you are probing every sore in the diseased body of Mother India, and, like an eminent physician, prescribing efficacious remedies for their cure. We pray to God that you may be crowned with glory and live in peace and happiness.

64. The *Samay* [Calcutta] of the 31st August writes as follows:—

The Bharatpur deposition.

SAMAY,
Aug. 31st, 1900.

Why was not the procedure followed in the case of Mulhar Rao followed in the case of Ram Singh? If this had been done, the Government would not have been to blame. In our opinion, the Government should act cautiously and considerately in such cases. The Government has now placed Ram Singh's minor son on the *guddee*. It ought to see that a large number of Europeans are not employed in the service of the State during the minority of the new Chief. That will cause a needless waste of the State's money and create discontent in the mind of the people.

65. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 31st August has the following:—

The Bharatpur deposition.

HITAVADI,
Aug. 31st 1900.

Ram Singh, the Maharaja of Bharatpur, has been suddenly deposed. It is said that he shot one of his servants dead, and that his administration also has many defects. Discussing all these matters, the Government of India has come to the conclusion that the Maharaja should be deposed; that his infant son should be installed on the throne; and that until this infant attains his majority the British Government should, as his guardian, look after all his State affairs. This order has surprised many people. We, too, are surprised, and shall, in this connection, discuss a few matters relating to the Bharatpur State.

Maharaja Jasawant Singh, of Bharatpur, died on the 12th December 1893. Eighteen days before his death, he deprived his eldest son of the right of succession, and declared his youngest son as his successor, and wrote a letter to that effect to the Governor-General and to the Governor-General's Agent in Rajputana. After discussing whether or no the letter was really written by Jasawant Singh, it was decided that the Maharaja had written no letter. Consequently, the British Government, following the principle of succession, gave the office of Maharaja and the throne of Bharatpur to the eldest son.

Many people felt curious to know why the British Government, before a year had hardly elapsed since the installation of Maharaja Ram Singh, considered him unfit to remain on the *guddee*, or why, after having placed him on it, deprived him of many of his powers. If it be true that Government thus deprived him of many of his powers because it noticed faults in his administration of the State, in his oppression of the people, or in his loyalty to the British power, or faults of any other kind, then public suspicion would have been removed, and nobody would have felt any sympathy with the Maharaja if those faults had been pointed out in a public manner. But how the question of the Maharaja's fitness to remain on the *guddee* was decided in so short a time was a thing which not even we could understand. There is, therefore, no difference of opinion as to the fact that the conduct of the officials in this matter gave rise to grave suspicions.

There is a little more mystery in this connection. We have come to learn of certain irregularities regarding the administration of the Bharatpur State. The deposed Maharaja brought certain serious charges against Pandit Bishun Lal, Rao Bahadur, a member of the State Council, and also gave out that the Pandit was a favourite of Lieutenant-Colonel Martelli. When the Maharaja of Bharatpur made such a petition to the Governor-General and demanded an account of some lakhs of rupees from Bishun Lal, what wonder that Colonel Martelli should consider the Maharaja unfit to sit on the *guddee*?

When, in February 1894, Colonel Martelli was transferred to Baroda, Colonel Fraser came to Bharatpur as the Political Agent. It is not probable

that the latter was able, within a few days, to master the situation in Bharatpur, and considered the Maharaja unfit. So that there can be no doubt that his opinion was based on that of his predecessor, Colonel Martelli. Nor did anybody entertain any manner of doubt that Colonel Trevor, too, the Governor-General's Agent in Rajputana, cried ditto to Colonel Martelli, that is to say, sanctioned his recommendation.

People then said that by complaining to the Viceroy that Bishun Lal was appointing his friends and relatives to the service of the Bharatpur *Raj*, that he had taken some lakhs of rupees from the *Raj* treasury, and that he was a great favourite with Colonel Martelli, the Maharaja had probably courted his own misfortune: had forged a weapon for his own destruction. Acting on Bishun Lal's representation, the Political Agent disgraced respectable men in the State, and Bishun Lal used to extort money from the Maharaja and the Maharaja's mother by means of threats. All these were serious charges. The preferring of these complaints was the cause of all trouble.

All this took place five years ago. Maharaja Ram Singh suffered a good deal of trouble at that time. He was in a manner deposed at that time. The question was then discussed whether the Maharaja should be allowed to come to Bharatpur or should be compelled to live either at Mathura or at Massourie. All this is now matter of ancient history. The servant-killing incident and other incidents of that nature had not then occurred, nor were any charges of that kind made at that time. It is after a lapse of five years that many things new are being said about the Bharatpur State.

We are now told that the letter which Maharaja Jasawant Singh was alleged to have written to Government proposing to disinherit his eldest son was a genuine letter; that Ram Singh's character is really disfigured by many blemishes; and that on the 2nd June last he killed his own faithful servant! The Maharaja had been kept deprived of his powers from the latter end of 1894, and this time he has been absolutely dethroned. What the Maharaja has to say to this we have been given no opportunity of knowing. The public know nothing of the various mysteries regarding the internal administration of Bharatpur. Even those that do know them do not venture to give them publicity. So that if the authorities, before they so suddenly announced their decision that Maharaja Ram Singh is unfit to sit on the *guddee*, had publicly brought their charges against the Maharaja and informed the public of what he had to say by way of reply to those charges, then nobody would have had anything to say. But the authorities have not told us everything. We should have nothing to say if the officials did not affect a love of justice, if the authorities in this country were not anxious to prove themselves lovers of justice and fair-play before the Queen-Empress and before Englishmen in England. But when they show themselves unwilling to swerve from the truth and opposed to all arbitrary conduct, we have a right to ask them for an explanation of this deposition of the Maharaja of Bharatpur.

We are bound to say that this deposition has produced various misgivings in the public mind, and the public will incur no blame if they form the opinion that Government has acted unjustly in this matter. As a matter of fact, we all know that Residents or Political Agents stationed in Native States become all-in-all there, that they lord it over the Princes, and that these nominal Princes are perfect nonentities. In many matters the most distinguished Tributary and Allied Chiefs do not possess that liberty and those rights which even the commonest British-Indian subject is entitled to enjoy. The fact is well known to every reader of the native newspapers. We shall be happy if we can be convinced that in the present case some such conspiracy as the above has not been the principal cause of this unprecedented deposition.

66. Referring to the Foreign Office letter on the subject of travel by Native Princes, the same paper writes as follows:—

Travel by Native Princes.

We deny not a single statement made by the Viceroy in this letter. But we ask, who brought about this miserable condition of the Native Princes? Who made Cooch Bihar dress like a European? Who made Patiala a hero in cricket? Who made Dholpur frantically fond of balls and dances? Who was it again that made the Gaekwar a lover of European luxury? Governor-General Lord Curzon!—It was your predecessors in office who, by making over these Princes to English tutors, made them imitators of English

manners and habits. It was your enlightened fellow-countrymen who got themselves permanently fastened to these Princes like leeches, and filling them with the intoxication that is bred by balls, dances, parties and dinner parties, made them extravagant in their expenditure. It was your enlightened fellow-countrymen who taught these Princes to enjoy the pleasure of marrying English women. It was the officers subordinate to you who made these Princes drink the inebriating wine of European travel; and you now find it necessary, like the god Siva, to save the world by drinking the dire poison which those self-seeking Englishmen have brought into existence just as the gods of the Hindu Puranas raised the destructive *halahal* (poison) from the bottom of the sea by churning its waters. The fault is not ours; the fault is not of the Orientals; the fault is not one for which the Rajas and the Maharajas are responsible. The fault is the Englishman's. At this time, when a dire famine is devastating the land, Cooch Bihar and Baroda are living in Europe, Patiala is mad over cricket, and Jodhpur is going to the Chinese war. Bikaner also has followed the example of Jodhpur. Gwalior is in Calcutta superintending the preparations for fitting up his hospital-ship at a cost of twenty lakhs. They are doing all this, while poor people in the country are dying like ants. Surely all this reflects no credit on the Government of the British Empire.

67. The *Mihir-o-Sudhakar* [Calcutta] of the 31st August says that the people of India cannot be too grateful to Lord Curzon, the young and talented Viceroy whose

Travel by Native Chiefs.

firmness and strict sense of justice are really worthy of admiration. His Lordship never hesitates to attend to the call of duty, and never fears to tell the truth. Recently he has taken upon himself to cure the Native Princes of India of a malady which was threatening to become chronic with them.

Lord Curzon went to visit a famine-stricken Native State. He found that the people were dying of starvation, and that the ruler of the State, instead of being among them in their distress, was away from India enjoying himself at the Paris Exhibition. Lord Curzon, therefore, saw the necessity of interference, and has issued this circular. It is to be hoped that His Excellency's action will awaken those Native Princes who are so enamoured of European civilisation to a sense of their duties towards their subjects.

68. The *Bankura Darpan* [Bankura] of the 1st September says that much displeasure was caused by the sudden deposition of the Rana of Jhalwar in the time of Lord Elgin,

The Bharatpur deposition.

especially as no satisfactory reasons were assigned by the Government for its action. But this time, in the matter of the Bharatpur deposition, the Government of India has kept nothing secret. There is also no sign of any discontent among the Bharatpur people on account of the deposition. In the evil days through which India is passing, the Maharaja gave himself up to extravagance and wantonness, and, last of all, committed a murder. The Government of India has, therefore, with the sanction of the Secretary of State, removed him from his *guddee* and made arrangements for the good government of his State. Better days dawned on Baroda after the deposition of Malhar Rao Gaekwar, and it is to be hoped that the deposition of the Maharaja of Bharatpur will bring happier days to that State.

69. The *Suraswat Patra* [Dacca] of the 1st September writes as follows with reference to the Bharatpur deposition:—

The Bharatpur deposition.

The Government has done the right thing. You say that it would have been better to have the Maharaja tried before his deposition. But we do not see the necessity of a public trial in this case. The Government committed a mistake by not following the mature advice of the late Maharaja, and it has now only rectified that mistake. The formality of a trial would have been quite useless and unnecessary in this case.

70. The *Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 1st September writes that Lord Curzon's explanation with regard to the Bharatpur

The Bharatpur deposition.

deposition cannot be called into question. The Maharaja's stars are against him. He has suffered the consequences of his actions in a previous life.

71. The same paper writes as follows:—

Travel by Native Chiefs.

A correspondent writes in the *Manchester Courier* that Lord Curzon had advised the Maharaja of

MIHIR-O-SUDHAKAR,
Aug. 31st, 1900.

BANKURA DARPAN,
Sept. 1st, 1900.

SARASWAT PATRA,
Sept. 1st, 1900.

BANGAVASI,
Sept. 1st, 1900.

BANGAVASI,

Baroda not to go to Europe in this year of distress, but this advice was not heeded. The resolution regarding the European tours of Native Chiefs lends a colour to this statement. We fully approve of this resolution. In our opinion, visits to Europe do more harm than good to the Native Chiefs. It is only the ignorant who are talking of the liberty of Native Chiefs being in danger. Even the Queen cannot pay a visit to Ireland without the permission of Parliament. The European Sovereigns also are not at liberty to go wherever they please.

BANGABANDHU,
Sept. 1st, 1900.

72. The *Bangabandhu* [Chandernagore] of the 1st September writes as follows with reference to the deposition of the Maharaja of Bharatpur:—

The Bharatpur deposition.

Lord Curzon is said to be an ocean of kindness, the seat of pity, and the repository of mercy. He is a far-sighted statesman, and the abode of all virtues. May we not make bold to ask him a question—"Would it not have been better to let the deposed Maharaja have the advantage of a public trial?" A commission was appointed to try Malhar Rao. Why was not that procedure followed in the case of Ram Singh? Maharaja Ram Singh maintains that he killed his servant accidentally. Why was he not given an opportunity to prove his allegation? It is our earnest desire, as well as the desire of the Government, that the people should have no occasion to suspect the Government's motive in deposing a Native Chief.

BANGABANDHU.

73. The same paper writes as follows:—

Travel by Native Chiefs.

The condition of the Native Chiefs is extremely deplorable. Like Raja Trisanku of the *Mahabharat*, they belong neither to heaven nor to earth, but remain suspended, as it were, in mid air. They do not enjoy the privileges of a Sovereign, nor do they enjoy the liberty of a common subject. So far as the administration of their States is concerned, they are mere tools in the hands of the Political Officers. At the same time, they cannot move about freely like the common people. They are indeed each a Trisanku of the Kaliyug.

There is a witty saying that there are three classes of Sovereigns—animate, inanimate, and vegetating. The Native Chiefs so long belonged to the second class, but now, after the issuing of the circular regarding their travel, they will come under the third category. They will henceforward grow and vegetate where they have been born. They will now be perfectly motionless.

We admit that a Native Chief's absence from his State is often harmful to his subjects; but the absence of English officials from the seat of Government is no less harmful. If English officials set an example to Native Chiefs in this respect, their professed anxiety for the welfare of the people of the Native States will be considered to be sincere. The Native Chiefs practically live under surveillance in their States, and it is to free themselves temporarily from this surveillance that they go to Europe. The honour and respect which is paid to Eastern rulers in the sacred land of Europe induce the Native Chiefs to seek opportunities for going there. Repeatedly honoured and respected, the Native Chiefs learn to entertain a sincere hatred and dislike for the persecuting Political Officers and their friends. So, although a European travel may be pleasant to the Native Chiefs, the Government is not expected to look upon it with favour. It becomes almost inevitable that a travelled Chief will chafe under the yoke of the Government of India. Travel by Native Chiefs must, therefore, be restricted—not so much for the welfare of their subjects, or for the Government's own moral and spiritual good, as for the facilitating of the administration of the country.

PRATIVASI,
Sept. 3rd, 1900.

74. The *Prativasi* [Calcutta] of the 3rd September has the following with reference to the circular restricting the travel of Native Chiefs.

Travel by Native Chiefs.

What is the use of sprinkling water on a plant after you have cut it at its root? Neither Rajas nor Maharajas, neither the rich nor the poor in this country, receive that education which develops real manhood and spiritual insight. Ours is a character without a backbone: we are a people without moral stamina. We are moral weather-cocks, and we make ourselves ridiculous by changing our front with the current of circumstances. There is no hope for us if we do not reform our character. We want—badly want—physical strength; we are bankrupts in that respect. It is said that the Native Chiefs

are sucked dry by hundreds of Englishmen, and even the British Government, when necessity arises, does not hesitate to make them pay an occasional million or two. The bee is sure to be drawn to the honey-pot, but our Rajas and Maharajas have not that moral strength which may enable them to guard that honey-pot against the bee. Who is to blame for this? If our Rajas and Maharajas had incurred the displeasure of the Government by sincere attempts to be guided by their conscience, if they had been ready to take the vow of medicancy rather than play the king, we could have some reason to sanctify our pen by singing in praise of their greatness. We really feel ashamed to paint their character so black. Let the Native Chiefs now learn this lesson that the difficulties that they may create for themselves by never flinching from the path of stern duty will, in the long run, redound to their glory and increase their prestige and power. But let them, guided by ignorance, go astray from the path of duty and recklessly run after the will-o'-the-wisp (*ignis fatuus*), and they are sure to be sadly and sorely disappointed.

75. The *Kangal* [Cooch Bihar] of the 5th September expects much good from the Government of India's circular relating to travel by Native Chiefs. Some such order had

Travel by Native Chiefs.

become urgently necessary, considering the point to which those Chiefs had carried their travelling propensities. They were frequently absent from their States, and spent large sums on travels. Indeed, very few Native Princes carried on their administrations properly, though they did not hesitate to spend the hard-earned money of their subjects for their own comfort and happiness.

KANGAL,
Sept. 5th, 1900.

VI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

76. The *Sanjivani* [Calcutta] of the 30th August says that the vacancy caused in the Lady Doctorship of the Dufferin Zanana Hospital in Calcutta, by the resignation of Miss Church, should be filled up by appointing a native lady doctor to the post. So long as this beautiful hospital is not placed under the charge of a native lady, it will be of no use to those for whom it is intended.

SANJIVANI,
Aug. 30th, 1900.

77. The *Bankura Darpan* [Bankura] of the 1st September says that everybody will be glad to hear that the Hon'ble Mr. Oldham has taken up his duties after his return from leave. Mr. Oldham feels great affection for the people of Bengal. It is no wonder that Bengal should be as dear to him as his own country; for attaining majority he has lived only four years in his native country, Ireland, and only one year in England, and out of the thirty years he has been in service in India, he has spent not less than twenty-four years in Bengal, where all his children have been born, and where he has earned so much glory by his public services. The people of Bengal will be very glad if he is granted an extension of service.

BANKURA DARPAN,
Sept. 1st, 1900.

78. The *Prativasi* [Calcutta] of the 3rd September writes as follows:—
There has been a vacancy in the post of Lady Superintendent of the Calcutta Lady Dufferin Hospital by the appointment of Miss Church to a vacancy in the Lahore Aitchison Hospital. Who is going to be appointed to this vacancy? The Lady Dufferin Hospitals owe their existence to native liberality. It is now time to consider how far these institutions have proved beneficial to the country. They have not certainly done that good to the country which was expected of them. The Dufferin Fund, however, is supplying many English lady doctors with their bread. Native ladies are nowadays passing the Medical College examinations. They are better acquainted with the manners and customs of native women. We therefore fail to understand why the authorities do not appoint native lady doctors. Mrs. Kadambini Ganguli some time ago officiated in the post of Lady Superintendent of the Calcutta Dufferin Hospital. Her appointment to the vacancy will increase the usefulness of the hospital.

PRATIVASI,
Sept. 3rd, 1900.

URIYA PAPERS.

SAMVADVAHIKA,
Aug. 23rd, 1900.

79. The *Samvad Vahika* [Balasore] of the 23rd August is sorry to find that though some Indians have trained themselves up as barristers, doctors and civilians, very few have attempted to learn the practical arts and sciences that have made the English nation so great in the eyes of the world. The writer hopes that the Indians will profit by the example of the Japanese and Siamese, who are rapidly advancing in industrial arts and profitable sciences.

SAMVADVAHIKA.

80. The same paper is sorry to notice that heavy rains, and consequent river floods, have done a great deal of injury to the paddy crop in the fields in the Balasore district.

SAMVADVAHIKA.

81. The same paper states that a serious railway accident occurred at a place situated at a distance of five miles from the Balasore station of the Orissa branch of the Bengal-Nagpur Railway, between Baripada Road and Balasore, on the night of the 19th August 1900, at about 12 midnight. The driver of the down mail train, while leaving the Balasore station for the Baripada Road, was not aware that a portion of the rail line between those two stations was under water owing to high flood in the Barabalang river, and that consequently certain portion of the rail-road were damaged. When the train reached a particular bridge in that part of the line, one of the two iron railings gave way, and the engine, with a certain number of carriages, went out of the line with tremendous force, and was immediately dashed to pieces. A few first, second and third class carriages that were in the middle were piled one above the other, and utterly wrecked, while four or five carriages that were towards the end escaped destruction. The mail carriage, with its contents was entirely destroyed, while the two Sub-Postmasters in charge of the same had a providential escape. The writer has heard that more than one hundred passengers were either killed or wounded. Some of the wounded are under treatment in the Balasore hospital.

URIYA AND
NAVASAMVAD,
Aug. 2nd, 1900.

82. Its (the *Samvad Vahika's*) contemporary, the *Uriya and Navasamvad* [Balasore] of the 22nd instant gives substantially the same story, but adds that the accident took place near a bridge called *Hatimanda*. The down mail train reached the Balasore station long after the appointed hour, and its driver had information from the driver of the up mail train, who was waiting at that station, that the condition of the rail-road between Baripada Road and Balasore was very bad, and that the latter had crossed the same with great difficulty. Notwithstanding this information, the driver of the down mail train went at full speed, as if to cross the damaged rail-road in a dashing style. He was however sadly mistaken, as the results showed. The writer hears that a European gentleman, who was the Principal of some college, was killed, and that the number killed was far in excess of the number given in the published list. The District Magistrate of Balasore inspected the place where the accident happened, and the Civil Surgeon of that town, with his assistant, is attending to the wounded in the Balasore hospital.

UTKALDIPIKA,
Aug. 25th 1900.

83. Its (the *Samvad Vahika's*) contemporary, the *Utkaldipika* [Cuttack] of the 25th instant gives a similar story, and adds that it was raining heavily on the Sunday (19th August 1900) night, which was a very dark and stormy one, and that the accident occurred near a place called *Nidhipanda*. The writer has heard that a strong current of water was on both sides of the rail-road, and that some of the carriages fell suddenly into the water. A spare engine went up from Balasore to bring down the wounded passengers and the carriages that had escaped destruction. About two miles of the rail-road have been destroyed and the stench (probably due to dead bodies) is so great that it is difficult to walk by the side of the broken rail-road. The writer concludes his article by remarking that such an accident occurred nowhere else and that the dark, rainy and stormy night intensified the sufferings of the passengers, who had therefore no means of immediate relief. It is said that the two Sub-Postmasters in

charge of the mail carriages saved themselves by putting their hands on the telegraph wire, which supported them throughout that dark and dreary night.

84. The *Utkaldipika* [Cuttack] of the 25th August is informed that a certain portion of the East Coast Railway road was damaged by high flood in the Godavery, and that

UTKAL DIPIKA,
Aug. 25th 1900

several villages on both sides of that river were washed away. A pillar of the Godavery Railway bridge has also been washed away, on account of which there is a break in the railway traffic. The writer has further information that the Nerbudda, the Cauvery and the Indus had also high floods.

85. Referring to the number of famished men and women who were in receipt of relief at the Khond Mahals, and whose number was reduced from 1,262 to 340 in one week, the same paper points out that the reduction in figures looks extraordinary, as the price of rice is still seven or eight seers per rupee. The fact that the demand for agricultural labour has carried off many from the relief camps, though true, cannot satisfactorily explain this abnormal reduction in the figures.

UTKAL DIPIKA,

Relief figures in the Khond Mahals.

86. The same paper makes a favourable notice of Mr. Brown's "Guide to Orissa,"—a small book written in English and printed by the Orissa Mission Press, Cuttack. The book is really a guide to European travellers who may care to know anything about the ancient architecture and history of Balasore, Cuttack, Puri, Jajpur, Bhavaneswar, Khandgiri and Kanarak, all of which are in the Orissa Division and are noted for their ancient history. The writer thanks the author, Mr. Brown, who is the District Judge of Cuttack, for his great love and large sympathy for Orissa, that greet the eyes of the reader of his book.

UTKAL DIPIKA

87. The same paper observes that *ferry ghât* oppression is an annual complaint, and therefore deserves the notice of the district authorities. Chakradhar Das, a resident of mauza Jaiyal, in Mahanga, in district Cuttack, had to carry the luggage of Babu Jagamohan Lal across the Mahanaddi river. He was compelled by the *manjhi* of the *ghât* to pay something extra above the fixed rate. The bearer states that the *manjhis* realise *extra* by force from every passenger. The writer observes that such complaints are made by many passengers, and they are generally due to the unsatisfactory rate of wages, which the *ijaradar* pays to the *manjhis*, who are therefore hardly under his control.

UTKAL DIPIKA.

88. The same paper does not agree with the conclusions arrived at in the late resolution of Government on the survey and settlement of Orissa. The writer points out that the settlement has reduced the income of the zamindars, tenure-holders and raiyats on the whole. Though the increase of the demand on the zamindars and raiyats is not very great, that on the tenure-holders, such as *bazyfti-lakhirajdars*, &c., is enormous, whereas these tenure-holders represent the middle-class of society, (*bhadraloke*) who are averse to manual labour and therefore suffer most from want. The fact that almost all the zamindars and tenure-holders have executed their *kabuliyats* may be a ground for satisfaction to Government, but really it is not so. They would have executed their *kabuliyats* had the demands of Government been still higher; for they have no other means of maintenance. In conclusion, the writer observes that it is a mistaken policy of Government to increase the demand on lands from time to time, and thereby make the country poorer day by day. A settlement that leads to poverty can, however praised it be for its many interesting and satisfactory features, never be good or perfect in any way.

UTKAL DIPIKA,

The Government Resolution on the Orissa Settlement.

ASSAM PAPERS.

Mr. Porteous leaving Sylhet.

89. The *Parilarsak* [Sylhet] of the 1st September has the following:—

PARIDARSAN,
Sept. 1st, 1900.

(Mother Sylhet.)

Why is this so, and so suddenly?
Why do you look so sad?
Why are your eyes filled with tears?
And why do you breathe so hard?

(The Sylhet public.)

Mother, what shall we say of our grief?
 We feel struck as if with the bolt from the blue!
 Mr. Porteous is to-day going to leave us:
 We had consoled ourselves with the hope
 That all our misery and all our suffering would soon be at an end;
 But our hopes have suddenly been cast to the ground.

(Mother Sylhet.)

Mr. Porteous is going away. Who else
 Will take a fatherly care of you?
 Who else will go from door to door
 To know your wants and grievances;
 To promote your health and the health of your country?
 Who else will go through the creeks and corners,
 The fields and meadows, riding the bicycle?
 Who else will help poor children with monthly gifts,
 And fulfil the desires of the poor,
 Like the famous Data Karna of yore?
 Who else, forgetting the differences of colour,
 Will embrace you like his own children?
 Who else will dispense justice with an even hand,
 And rigorously put down oppression and tyranny?
 Who else will call you so affectionately,
 And appoint you to the public service?
 Will you ever again be blessed with a ruler
 So kind, so wise, and so just?
 It is your great ill-luck that so suddenly
 Does Porteous go away from your midst:
 His virtues are really so many
 That it is impossible to exhaust their enumeration:
 It is impossible to open our heart
 And show him how deep and sincere is our love.

Chorus.

Leaving a void in thy mother's heart,
 Crossing many a sea and many a river,—
 Why hast thou come to this land?—
 To win glory? May glory thy portion be!
 May the fragrance of thy fame
 Be carried far and wide on the wings of the wind
 Is our humble prayer to God:
 The highest pinnacle of official honour
 Mayest thou soon reach;
 May thy hopes and desires be fulfilled!
 We are always praying to God,
 For ever and ever, for your welfare.

CHUNDER NATH BOSE,

Bengali Translator.

BENGALI TRANSLATOR'S OFFICE,
The 8th September, 1900.